

Access

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LM's New Youth Services Specialist Arrives

By Carey L. Draeger, Public Information Officer

Kristine Tardiff is a bit like First Lady Laura Bush—no, she's not from Texas. She's actually a native Michiganiaan from Southfield who moved to Seattle in 1996 to serve as the assistant children's services manager at the Sno-Isle Regional Library System.

What Mrs. Bush and Ms. Tardiff share is the fact that they were about the same age when they attended graduate school to obtain a master of library science degree after a career in teaching. Tardiff's bachelor of English degree from Michigan State University was in education; Bush's degree was in education from Southern Methodist University. Both decided in their late twenties to return to college for an MLS degree.

"I've always wanted to be educated," Tardiff says with a smile. "I kept taking classes." In addition to her bachelor degree in social sciences, Tardiff earned a master of arts degree in American Studies, a second bachelor degree—in English education—all from Michigan State University, before completing an MLS from Florida State University.

"After I finished my bachelor degree in English education, I took a couple of years off and worked as a legal assistant," Tardiff says. "Then I decided I wanted to change careers and go into career counseling or library work."

Tardiff has always been interested in libraries. She loved visiting them as a child. "My routine was to go swimming and then visit the library," she says. When she decided to become a librarian, she says she was surprised she hadn't thought of it sooner. Since she also had a teaching certificate, it seemed logical to work with children in her library career, but she thought she would eventually work at a school library or an academic library. "I like to make a difference in kids' lives. For some children, the library is a brand new experience," Tardiff points out. She speaks from experience. "I was a Head Start kid. The first time I was read to was a mesmerizing experience for me. Librarians have that kind of an impact on children."

Tardiff also loves to write—she worked for a newspaper as a freelance writer, producing human interest stories, business profiles and seasonal articles. She also helped to create and post content for the Sno-Isle Regional Library System's children's services web page.

Tardiff is passionate about supporting and advocating for librarians. "Sometimes I think they feel unappreciated. I want librarians to know that someone's on their side. I'll be the one who gets people's ear and makes them hear the issues and concerns that are important to librarians."

Tardiff began her job at the Library of Michigan on February 20.



Kristine Tardiff, Youth Services Specialist



Notes from the State Librarian

George W. Bush is now the forty-third president of the United States, but his wife, Laura Welch Bush, is the first librarian to become the nation's First Lady! We may surmise from the pre-inaugural events she sponsored to promote literacy that Mrs. Bush will champion libraries and literacy during the Bush administration. Since some believe that we are raising a generation of "mouse potatoes" and not readers, any promotion of libraries and literacy is welcome news!

The September/October 2000 issue of *Public Libraries* contains wonderful articles on "Getting Kids to Read: What Works and What Doesn't." One contributor presented the ABCs of helping children learn to read: "make books Accessible, Be open to a wide variety of children's needs and interests, and be aware of the Copy Cat principle" (in which children learn to read by seeing others read). The editor of the articles, Don Sager, concluded that any strategy to get kids to read must include libraries and librarians. "Reading-related activities are as important to the library's mission as reference services and extending access to the Internet. In fact, a strong case can be made that reading activities for youth are of greater importance because reading proficiency is so essential to a child's subsequent success in school, college and later life."

Because helping children learn to read is so critically important, the Library of Michigan will renew its emphasis on children's services in libraries. As part of our commitment to this important area, Kristine Tardiff (this month's cover story) will join our staff as the new Library of Michigan Youth Services Specialist. She will be available to consult with librarians who work with youth, and will be coordinating various statewide activities to aid children's library services. I am pleased the Library of Michigan will have Kristine on board to help us continue to champion the cause of children's librarians and the importance of early childhood reading.

Kristine

Looking for a Few Good Reviewers

Are you curious about what goes on in scoring grant applications? Do you long to gain experience in judging a winning grant? The Library of Michigan can help you achieve these goals!

The Library seeks volunteers to help review LSTA grants. It's an easy, relatively painless assignment. It involves a one-day trip to Lansing to be part of a peer review team, a stack of grants to read and a good education in grant writing.

We'll need volunteers in August and September 2001. To become part of the peer review team, please email Jennifer Kesson, Library Development Administrative Assistant, at jkesson@libraryofmichigan.org for more information.

2000 Mitten Award Announced

The 2000 Mitten Award, given annually by the Children's Services Division of the Michigan Library Association, was presented to Kate DiCamillo, author of *Because of Winn-Dixie*. The award committee based its decision on nominations from the Children's Services Division membership. The mission of the Mitten Award is "to recognize one children's book published in the United States within the calendar year that has captured the attention of the children's librarians throughout the State of Michigan for its ability to communicate through literature to an intended audience."

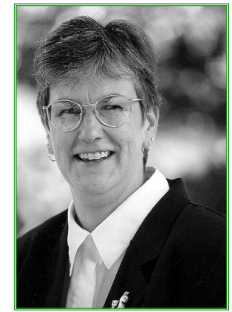
Because of Winn-Dixie is the story of 10-year-old Opal, who moves with her preacher father to Naomi, Florida. The lonely child finds a stray dog, Winn-Dixie, who helps her befriend a group of lovable, quirky locals and brings her closer to her father and the truth about her mother, who left the family when Opal was 3. The cast of characters includes Miss Franny Block, the town librarian who once fought off a bear with a copy of *War and Peace*. *Because of Winn-Dixie* was also named one of four 2001 Newbery Honor Books by the American Library Association.

DiCamillo, who now lives in Minneapolis, spent most of her childhood in the South and received her bachelor degree from the University of Florida in Gainesville. She writes for children and adults and is a recipient of the 1998 McKnight Artist Fellowship for Writers. *Because of Winn-Dixie* is DiCamillo's first novel.

DiCamillo will accept the Mitten Award at the Children's Services Division Spring Institute on Wednesday, April 25.

The Statistics, They Are A-Changin'

By Jo Budler
Deputy State Librarian



At the American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter conference, I attended a workshop entitled "Measuring Public Library Network Services" presented by Charles McClure, John Bertot and Joe Ryan. McClure was quick to point out during his introduction that for 50 years, librarians have been counting circulation statistics and the number of people who have entered our buildings. Now that circulation counts are declining and people are visiting us virtually (via the Internet) as well as "in reality," (so our "real" visits may also be declining in numbers), what are we to do? His suggestion: start counting other things. Why not gather statistics on network services, specifically those statistics that are meaningful and that reflect the library service elements we presently offer? Then we can use these statistics to make decisions that lead to improved library services.

It all begins with planning. Whenever folks discuss planning, I am reminded of the song about bones and connection. You know the one where "The knee bone's connected to the leg bone, the leg bone's connected to the hip bone," etc. Evaluation is connected to our goals and objectives that are based on our community analysis, which is obtained through focus groups, town-hall meetings, surveys, interviews, and more. While we may all agree that evaluation is important, one may also easily make the case that evaluation does not equate statistics gathering. We've probably all seen statistics that have absolutely no relationship whatsoever to the needs that should be evaluated.

One of the lessons to be learned is that we need to gather statistics that are useful to us, hence we need to customize. The statistics we gather at the Library of Michigan must have meaning to our key stakeholders. They may end up being different from the ones other librarians gather for their key stakeholders. The workshop leaders suggested that when choosing which statistics to collect, librarians should ask themselves these questions:

- 1) What is important to the key stakeholders? The best way to determine this is to ask them!
- 2) How should this information be presented, i.e. what form should the message take?
- 3) When should this information be shared? Timing may not be everything but we should not underestimate its importance. When we deliver our messages is almost as important as the message itself.

It is also important to involve library staff in discussions of what statistics to gather and how. Workshop leaders reminded attendees to involve staff as early as possible in the process. These are the folks who will prove invaluable in the process and in ensuring that we are gathering the correct numbers to get the correct measurement.

Just as a picture is worth a thousand words, sometimes a story is worth a thousand statistics. How much more powerful is the statistic that the Library of Michigan loaned 488,432 items through the Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped when the following story is added!

In August we received a letter from the daughter of one of our SBPH customers. In it she said, "At the age of 92 and being blind, (my mother) is presently in an adult foster care home. I am amazed how sharp her mind remains and I attribute it to the talking radio and the talking books she gets from the (Library of Michigan)." Nothing more needs to be said.

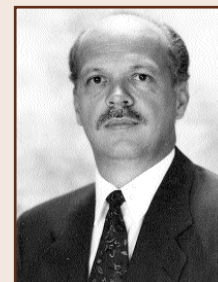
David Tate Elected Chair of LM Board

By Carey L. Draeger
Public Information Officer

David Tate, director of the Van Buren District Library, was elected chair of the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees for 2001. Tate, who previously served as the vice chair during 2000, was elected chair at the board's November 17 meeting in Lansing.

Tate is in the midst of his third term on the LM Board of Trustees. He was appointed by Governor Engler in 1994, 1996 and again in 1999, for consecutive three-year terms. His current term expires later this year on December 31.

In addition to his duties as a Library of Michigan trustee, Tate also is responsible for the overall administration of the Van Buren District Library. This system consists of a central library (Webster Memorial) and six branches. Tate serves as the liaison between the district's library board and the six branches' advisory committees.



Library of Michigan Foundation: *The Year in Review*

By Sarah D. Watkins, Executive Director

The Foundation's first year of the new millennium was one of planning, creating, organizing and implementing. From the fall of 1999 to March of 2000 we focused on strategic planning. After successfully creating our plan and its goals and objectives, we moved on to the feasibility study.

The strategic plan stated that we would "conduct a feasibility study for a \$3,000,000 endowment campaign and a \$500,000 capital campaign to complete the Rare Book Room project." Mark Morrow of the Grand Rapids-based Breton Group was selected as the consultant to assist the Foundation in this important study.

Morrow surveyed nearly 40 people, composed of individuals, corporations and foundations, and presented the results at the Foundation's August 2000 board meeting. Morrow's advice was to "finish the Rare Book Room as soon as possible and then—only after that has been accomplished—begin building your endowment."

Board Development: Assessment, Ethics and Responsibilities

The Board Development Committee, under the leadership of Committee Chair Jack R. Winegarden, was created in 1999 and did extensive work throughout 2000. This committee is responsible for changes in the by-laws and articles of incorporation, Board Officer and Committee Member Responsibilities, completion and reporting of results from a Board Member Self-Assessment, and a Board Member Code of Ethics and Responsibilities Statement being signed and returned by the board's members.

Comprehensive Development and Sustained Growth

Implementation of a comprehensive development program is extremely important to the advancement of the Foundation. This means focusing on laying the groundwork of a plan that can be built upon over a period of years and successfully establishing the basis of a strong and ongoing support system.

The Fall 2000 Campaign results totaled \$17,909, and exceeded those of 1999 by over 64 percent. (Total fundraising for all of 2000 exceeded \$580,000 in gifts and pledges.) The fall appeal is only a small part of the development plan. It is a direct mail program and only one of many written "asks" that will be made throughout the year.

Throughout 2001 we will focus not only on direct mail programs, but also on donor cultivation through events—not to fundraise, but to enhance and increase the visibility of both the Library of Michigan and the Foundation—to establish and build a base of support.

Martha's Room

In order to build a Rare Book Room that will meet the state library's conservation and preservation of rare and special materials, an additional \$500,000 is required. More than \$850,000 in net assets for this long awaited project has been realized, so we are well on our way to success.

Finance Committee

This committee has produced incredible results this year. They've created some excellent products. The hard work of board members J. Lawrence "Larry" Lipton, vice president for investments of Salomon Smith Barney, and Carl English, president and CEO, Gas, Consumers Energy, can be seen in the incomparable *Investment and Spending Policy Statement, August 15, 2000* they wrote for the Foundation. The Finance Committee members spent countless hours interviewing prospective asset managers before recommending Salomon Smith Barney under the management of Senior Vice President Rick Ress.

What We've Done Lately

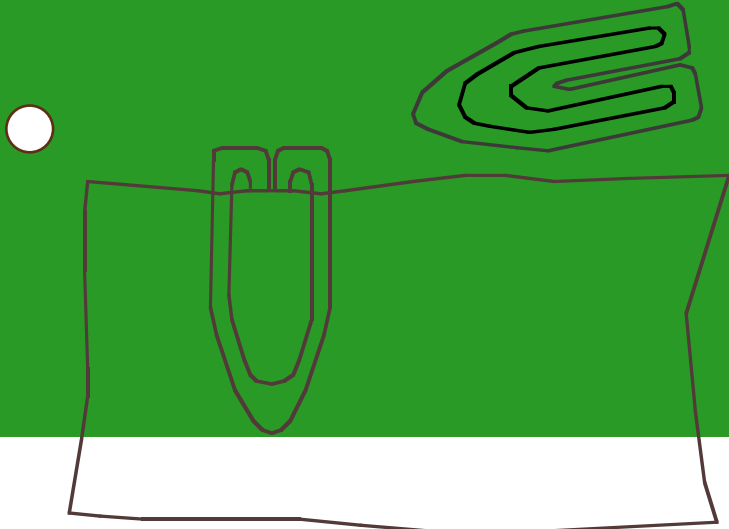
At the January 16, 2001, meeting of the Foundation board the directors approved a total of \$19,460 in grant funding for the following programs and scholarships:

Audio Described Video Proposal, (127 "expertly described motion picture and television programs" for the Library of Michigan's Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped),	\$2,660
Mahoney Children's Workshop Series 2001,	\$8,200
Loleta D. Fyan Rural Libraries Conference,	\$6,000
The Beginning Workshop,	\$2,000
Loleta D. Fyan Scholarship Awards,	\$600

[From October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000, the Foundation provided more than \$298,000 for programs and projects of the Library of Michigan.]

On the Horizon

Requests for proposals for this year's Read Indeed! grants will be sent out April 18. The deadline for applications is June 15. Recommendations from the Proposal Review Committee will go to the Foundation's board for approval on August 21. Letters of award or denial will be sent to applicants the week of August 27.



ebooks: What to Consider When Bringing Them Into Your Library

By Kim Laird,
Technical Services

The arrival of ebooks at the Library of Michigan created a remarkable response from the staff. Their initial reaction was that contraptions like the Rocket and Softbook would never replace "real" books, but as they used the paperback-sized devices, the staff marveled over the Rocket's capacity and ease of use. Even die-hard bibliophiles liked the fact that one device carries up to 100 ebooks.

Next, the Library of Michigan began to deal with all the issues of adding a new type of device into its collection. We were concerned with insuring excellent patron access and with customer service, which includes training LM staff on use of the reading devices and explaining the use to the patrons. Early on, we decided to treat the new format as if it were an ordinary print book. We wanted to avoid segregating it from the rest of the collection by imposing fines for replacement of the devices, requiring a credit card number to be left on file with us, etc., since such requirements represent a barrier to access.

The first device considered was the most readily available, the Rocket Reader (NuvoMedia). Initially, the Library of Michigan considered adding multiple devices, possibly as demonstration models. It was also important to us to make sure that we purchased a device that adhered to the Open E-Book initiative, which is a file interchange format that works across different hardware platforms. Due to the trouble of obtaining other devices and the greater number of titles offered for the Rocket, plus its ease of use, we chose the Rocket Reader and brought four more. The technical issues for this device were simple. We set up and loaded the software in approximately 45 minutes. We registered the new devices in 15 minutes.

At this point, for nearly all ebook devices on the market, titles are keyed to a specific device and cannot be used on other devices. Exceptions include netLibrary and Glassbook, which may be read on any PC. If a Rocket is damaged, lost or stolen the titles can be reset to a different reading device. Damaged, lost or stolen devices are reported to prevent the thief from being able to use the reader with purchased titles. While NuvoMedia (Rocket) and Softbook were recently purchased by RCA/Gemstar, support is still provided for those devices.

Initial results are excellent. The reader devices are circulating well less than a month after we added them to our collection. No major problems have been reported by either our patrons or staff. No decision has been made on the device that will be selected to replace the Rocket Pros currently in our collection. netLibrary titles have also been added to our collection.

Access debuts its occasional series of clip sheets for librarians with Kim Laird's story of how she and her staff introduced ebooks to the Library of Michigan. The clip sheets are intended to provide information that will help librarians identify potential new services and offer innovative ideas to improve present services, programs or practices. We hope you'll find these articles helpful and will "clip this" for future reference. We also welcome your suggestions and submissions for future clip sheets.



General Issues

What type of ebook reader will we buy?

Must be Open E-Book initiative compatible; must have excellent support; and must have adequate numbers of titles in appropriate categories for our collection development policy.

Options include a specialized reader, such as PalmPilot, REB1100, Rocket Pro, or Web-based, Microsoft, Everybook, Glassbook, netLibrary, or a text-based system such as Gutenberg.

Check-out and Security Issues

Reader devices may be borrowed with a Library of Michigan library card.

Devices will be kept in a locked cabinet, which is accessible from Circulation.

Publicity and Education Issues

Create an instruction sheet to help the patron bring up the Rocket Reader manual on the devices.

Train staff how to handle the devices and how to download replacement files for books that are deleted.

Where Will the Material be Stored?

All titles will be stored on the reading device and on a restricted server that is accessible to Public Services (PS) and Technical Services (TS) staff.

All titles are accessible via password on NuvoMedia's website.

New readers will be purchased as client demands warrant.

Public Services Issues

Education issues for staff and clients: A checklist has been created and some user documentation is in place to hand out to patrons.

Both TS and PS care for the reading devices. TS reports problems, completes downloads of new purchased titles, etc. Circulation reviews readers when returned to make sure all titles are loaded and checks for extraneous material.

Patrons are not allowed to download text material onto the readers.

Both Circulation and Acquisitions check the readers when they are returned or when new material is selected.

Viruses and security: No virus problems are currently associated with the Rocket Readers. Any virus or security problems will be reported to Network and Information Systems.

Cataloging Issues

How should the records for the readers and their titles display in the online patron access catalogs (OPAC)? Location code will show as ebook, the Call Number will show as Call Number. Reader [alphabetic designation], and the Status shows as "Ask at Circ." This will be used for all subsequent types of ebooks acquired (Glassbook, Softbook, etc.), not just for Rocketbooks.

What's available in ebook format? Typing in "ebook" as a keyword search pulls up all titles and the reader/anthology records. Typing in "ebook reader" brings up a list of LM readers. Each reader record contains at least a partial list of titles on each reader. This includes netLibrary titles.

Free titles will be downloaded to the Rockets upon request. PS will decide what free titles they want to retain permanently and will return the reader to TS for cataloging to request additions to the bibliographic record.

Cataloging Issues

Each ebook requires a separate catalog record (even if we have the same title in print).

URLs will be included for appropriate ebooks (cf. netLibrary)

Location information: ebook

Processing procedures: Labeled with Reader [alphabetic character] and barcoded.

Acquisitions has organized the folders by Rocket ID to make it easier to keep track of paid titles. Acquisitions has also created an Excel file on the Reader IDs, Barcode Inventory Number, Serial Number, etc.

A single bib record for each device is created, plus a bib record for each book title held on that reader. The reading devices are treated as anthologies.

Current location code for the Rocket editions is ebook and the 'format' code in the order record is z. In bibliographic records, the format code is that for computer files. The call number for the devices is "Reader A" and so forth.

Acquisitions Issues

Some systems require ordering via procurement/credit card. We can order and download titles within minutes with the Rocket reading devices.

Acquisitions will download onto the server for access by Public Services. The reader is then passed to cataloging for processing and returned to Public Services within the week.

When a Rocket Reader is stolen, damaged, or lost, Acquisitions will

Companies

Articles

Collection of links

request NuvoMedia to move the titles to a different reader and will report the theft. Acquisitions or Circulation will report the loss to Business Services for inventory purposes.

Network and Information Systems/Technology Issues

NIS prefers to support one type of reader.

Security issues will be taken care of as they arrive. The Rockets seem to be secure and do not represent a breach of security for our internal systems.

Circulation and ILL Issues

Loan period: Same as for other books in the collection.

Security issues: Locked in a cabinet behind Circulation.

Location of readers: Note in III says "Ask at Circ."

Reading devices are not part of interlibrary loan services at this time. A demonstration reader circulates with LM staff who are traveling.

General Information

<http://www.rrlc.org/ebook/ebookhome.html>

<http://www.ebookcollections.com>

<http://www.elibrarybook.com>

<http://www.e-booknow.com>

<http://www.eBookAd.com/>

<http://www.ebooksnbytes.com/publishers.html>

<http://www.electronic-books.com/>

<http://www.e-book-world.com/>

Collection of Links

<http://www.robotwisdom.com/web/etexts.html>

<http://www.ebookconnections.com/epublisher.htm>

Library Specific Information

<http://www.nslsilus.org/alkhome/faq.html>

<http://pml.suffolk.lib.ny.us/rocketebook.htm>

Bookstores

<http://www.powells.com>

<http://www.barnesnobles.com>

Companies

http://www.netlibrary.com/library_home_page.asp

<http://www.nuvomedia.com> or <http://www.softbook.com/> or

<http://www.ebook-gemstar.com/about/index.asp>

<http://www.glassbook.com/>

<http://www.everybook.net/>

Publishers

<http://www.wordbeams.com/>

<http://www.1stbooks.com/>

<http://www.starfire.douglas.ma.us/ebook/>

<http://www.electricebookpublishing.com/>

Open E-Book Initiative

<http://www.openebook.org/faq.htm>

Articles

<http://www.zdnet.com/zdnn/stories/news/0,4586,2314515,00.html>

<http://www.salonmag.com/books/feature/2000/10/20/frankfurt/>

<http://www.time.com/time/digital/magazine/articles/0,4753,58468,00.html>

<http://www.theatlantic.com/unbound/digitalreader/dr2000-11-16.htm>

http://www.publishersweekly.com/index_articles/20001016_91856.asp

http://www.findarticles.com/cf_0/m0BLB/2_23/61298119/p1/article.jhtml?term=electronic+collections+

Burk, Roberta. "Don't Be Afraid of E-books." *Library Journal*, April 15, 2000, p.42-45.

Dillon, Dennis. "Digital Books: Making them work for publishers and libraries." *C&RL News*, May 2000. P.391-393.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/00/06/circuits/articles/15book.html>

Balas, Janet I. "Developing Library Collections for a Wired World." *Computers in Libraries*, June 2000. P.61-63

Ebooknet.com has started up a new website <http://www.ebookweb.org/>

NETT...S

by Paul Groll, Director,
Network and Information Systems

A cheery room. Late winter sunlight filters in.
A telephone rings.

Dana: Help desk, Dana speaking.

Chris: Hi, Dana, it's Chris, and I need help.

D: What's up?

C: I have a server that's acting up and we can't figure out why. Every now and then, for no apparent reason, it reboots itself. We've checked the software and it seems fine. The hardware seems OK too.

D: Is this an older server?

C: Why, yes, it is – how did you know?

D: Is it in a small server room with other computer equipment?

C: Yes! Dana, how do you know these things?

D: I'm just going on a hunch. I've seen this behavior many times. Was the server room something else, such as a small office or a big closet?

C: This is getting spooky. It's like you can see through the phone!

D: No, but I'll take a guess at what's wrong. I bet the room is very warm, even hot.

C: Yeah, it's pretty warm in there.

D: This is probably an interior room with no windows. Sounds like it's just too hot.

C: Does that matter? All that's in there is computer equipment.

D: It matters a lot. People are usually surprised to learn that an overheated computer will spontaneously reboot. Users are also usually surprised to learn that most manufacturers put a strict upper temperature limit on the operating environment for their equipment, often only 85 to 90 degrees F. Above that temperature, the system's cooling fans cannot keep up, and the inside of the box gets too hot to function correctly. One of the first signs of trouble is spontaneous rebooting. Over the long term, overheating shortens the life of all the equipment.

C: Wow, I had no idea. What can we do about it?

D: There are several things you can do. First

and best, if you can, add a separate air conditioning unit for the server room. Some manufacturers make special units for this purpose. Some mount right in the ceiling with little fuss. If that's not possible, talk to your HVAC contractor about an additional air handler and duct work for your current system.

C: That'd be great, but with this year's budget—

D: An inexpensive solution that works well at many sites is to simply replace the door with a sturdy louvered door, or install grillwork panels in the current door. Security can be maintained and the overheated air has an escape. Add a \$40 floor fan and that may be all it takes.

C: We can try that. I'll definitely get that room cooled off, though, and see if that server runs better. But this raises another question—we have a staff desktop that works fine for about 30 minutes, then starts continuously running through reboot cycles. We thought it was just failing, and didn't pursue it, but now you've got me wondering.

D: This is another common problem that's easy to fix. Most desktop computers ship with a tiny electric fan right to the CPU chip or mounted on its housing. This little fan is designed to keep the chip cool enough to work right. Unfortunately, some are not well-built, and quickly wear out. Check this CPU fan. If it is dead or running too slowly, the CPU will overheat and start rebooting, even in a comfortable office. A good replacement fan is typically only \$10-\$30, and will salvage the use of the system for a long time.

C: That's great! We can use that machine.
Thanks, Dana.

D: My pleasure—call again soon.

Representative Kelly Receives Faust Legislator of the Year Award

The Michigan Library Association Public Policy Committee recently announced Representative Thomas H. Kelly was the recipient of its 2000 William P. Faust Legislator of the Year Award. Kelly received enthusiastic support for this award from the library community. Kelly, a Library of Michigan trustee from 1995 to 2000, is also a former educator and city councilman. His bachelor of arts degree in history and education is from Fordham University, while his master of library science degree is from Long Island University.

The Legislator of the Year award was created by the Michigan Library Association in memory of State Senator William P. Faust, who championed Michigan libraries during his legislative career. The award recognizes a state or national legislator who has made a significant contribution to libraries throughout his/her career.

Library of Michigan/ATLAS Video Conference Rescheduled to March 15, 2001

*By Rebecca Cawley, Statewide Database
Administrator*

The Library of Michigan and the Preferred Futures Action Team for Library Advancement Statewide (ATLAS) invite you to the rescheduled statewide video conference, which will occur on March 15, 2001. The conference will discuss the possibilities for the next stage of resource sharing in Michigan.

State Librarian Christie Brandau, library technology consultant Pat McClintock, and librarians from around the state will present the goals of this project:

- A statewide resource sharing system for non-electronic materials
- A system for authenticating remote users
- A delivery system for non-electronic materials
- A one-stop shopping, patron accessible, web-based portal to all AccessMichigan resources including commercial databases, MEL, and non-electronic materials

We will also share preliminary results from the survey that was mailed in February to Michigan libraries of all types.

Videoconference locations include: Michigan State University in East Lansing; Laurel Manor Conference Center in Livonia; Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo; University of Michigan—Flint; Northwestern Michigan University in Traverse City; Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie; and Michigan Technological University in Houghton. This video conference is free; due to limited seating at some sites you must register at the Michigan Library Consortium website (check here also for possible additional locations) at <http://mlc.lib.mi.us/cal/010315b.htm>

netLibrary Added to AccessMichigan Collection of Resources

*By Rebecca Cawley, Statewide Database
Administrator*

Beginning in late March 2001, the Library of Michigan will add a collection of netLibrary electronic books to AccessMichigan's resources. The startup collection will include approximately 3,000 titles in addition to the more than 3,000 public

domain items also available through netLibrary. We expect to add about the same number of titles again in 2002. This statewide collection will be available to all types of libraries and their users at no charge. The Library of Michigan sees this as a pilot project to test this particular method of delivering electronic books to users. Libraries that want to provide access to these titles from their online patron access catalogs (OPACs) will be able to purchase OCLC records for items in this collection at a group purchase rate.

netLibrary's key elements are:

- Titles are purchased and become permanently available to Michigan users. This is not a subscription service.
- The initial collection will include recent titles in a broad range of subjects of interest to all types of libraries.
- The Library of Michigan will continue to add titles to its core collection.
- Library patrons may register to use the collection at their local library.
- The Library of Michigan will create a web-based method for collecting IP ranges for libraries for authentication purposes.
- Libraries will have the option to purchase OCLC records for these titles so that they can integrate them into their local OPAC. Patrons will then be able to access these electronic books from their local collection and/or from netLibrary.

Some of the subjects in the beginning AccessMichigan netLibrary collection include:

American History	Juvenile Biography
Anthropology	Leisure
Astronomy	Library Science
Business	Literary Criticism
Careers	Math
Computers	Microbiology
Consumer Law	Nursing
Cooking	Physics
Countries, Culture	Self Help
Crafts	Sports
Criminology	Statistics
Fine Arts	Travel
General Reference	Theatre
Geology	Zoology
Homework Aids	
Internet and Commerce	

The Library of Michigan will provide demonstrations, training and publicity about netLibrary beginning in March. Visit the AccessMichigan website for more information about training and publicity at <http://www.accessmichigan.lib.mi.us>.

The Monroe County Library System recently added an online book club to its web site. The library hopes to encourage people to read more by spending just five minutes a day with a good book. The book club, known as Chapter-A-Day, emails five-minute excerpts from a book to members Monday through Friday. Members receive two or three chapters of a book, and then a new book is sent. "It won't give you the entire book because the goal is to perk your interest and get the book from the library or buy it," explained Heidi McCraw, head of the library's collection services. Suzanne Beecher of Florida created Chapter-A-Day and offers it to libraries around the country. To sign up for the online book club or learn more about Chapter-A-Day, visit the Monroe County Library System at <http://www.monroe.lib.mi.us>.

Around the State

Students from Grayling High School are working hard to provide a much-needed facelift to the Crawford County Library's furnishings. Class instructor Gil Cerelli and his students began the refinishing project in early December and will take approximately two years to complete it. "Right now we have about 15 chairs, a couple of tables and some bookshelves we are going to cut down and top with formica for the children's section," Cerelli said. The contributions made by Cerelli and his class will save the Crawford County Library hundreds of dollars.

If you have a news item you would like to contribute, please contact Carey Draeger at 517-373-5578 or email: cdraeger@libraryofmichigan.org.

The Carnegie Public Library will soon house two special antique china pieces (right) located on the Internet by an Ishpeming couple. Liz and Robbie Powelson presented the pieces to Marilyn Andrew, president of the Carnegie Public Library's Friends of the Library. The cobalt blue-glazed china pieces were most likely created between 1905 and 1910. They consist of a toothpick holder with a color-engraved transfer image of the library that reads "Carnegie Library, Ishpeming, Michigan," and a miniature bud vase with a picture of the Ishpeming city hall and the words "City Hall, Ishpeming, Michigan" on it. Both have an inscription that reads, "Made in Germany for Joseph Gill, Ishpeming, Michigan" on the bottom. Liz Powelson found the items on eBay, an Internet auction site.



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